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MMNNVV 152049ZJC677  
 NR RUCMNR  
 DE RUCBQB 00324 2201145  
 INY CCCCC TZE  
 R 191830Z AUG 79  
 FM A-CONSUL PESHAWAR  
 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 526  
 RUEBLC/AMEMBASSY KABUL 648  
 INFO ZEN/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 061  
 RUEBKE/AMCONSUL KARACHI 590  
 RUEBIC/AMEMBASSY LONDON 085  
 RUEBAE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 106  
 RUEMNE/AMEMBASSY TEHRAN 070  
 BT

CH 704

POL

CNS

CHRON

ECN

EF



C O N F I D E N T I A L PESHAWAR 0100

E.O. 12809: RDS-4 08/16/99 (ARCHARD, D.B.) OR-M  
 TAGS: PIRN, PINS, AF, PK  
 SUBJECT: (C) REBELS DENT "SHADOW CABINET" RUMORS

REF: KABUL 6803, (B) PESHAWAR

1. (C) ENTIRE TEXT.

2. THREE AFGHAN REBEL REPRESENTATIVES WITH WHOM I HAVE TALKED HAVE DENIED THAT A REBEL "SHADOW CABINET" COMPOSED OF TOP DISSIDENT LEADERS HAS BEEN ORGANIZED. DENIALS CONTRADICT RUMORS FROM KABUL SOURCES WHICH WERE REPORTEDLY BASED ON BROADCASTS FROM REBELS' RADIO ASMAR.

3. I TALKED WITH HASSAN GAILANI, NEPHEW AND CONFIDANT OF SYED AHMED GAILANI, ON AUGUST 10, AMCIT VIA MASSERY ON THE 11TH, AND HIZB-ISLAMI, AFGHANISTAN, NUMBER TWO LEADER AMINULLAH ON THE 14TH. ALL CONSIDER ANY DISSIDENT PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OR "SHADOW CABINET" MADE UP MOSTLY OF PESHAWAR-BASED LEADERS AS UNWORKABLE. MASSERY LIKENED SUCH A GOVERNMENT TO "PUTTING FIVE DIFFERENT ANIMALS IN THE SAME CAGE." GAILANI'S THOUGHTS WERE EXPRESSED ALONG SIMILAR LINES. AMINULLAH, WHO TOOK USUAL HIZB APPROACH OF DEVIATING THE OTHER GROUPS, SAID HIZB WOULD NOT JOIN SUCH A COALITION.

4. CLEARLY, THE LONG-STANDING ANTAGONISMS AMONG THE PANICUS AFGHAN FACTIONS HAVE NOT DIMINISHED. EACH TIME I TALK WITH DISSIDENTS, A PORTION OF THE CONVERSATION IS SPENT IN DAMNING THE COMPETITION. MOST RECENTLY, INTER-GROUP HOSTILITY WAS CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED TO ME AT THE HOTEL HYDER INTERCONTINENTAL SWIMMING POOL. WHILE MY FAMILY SWAM, I SAT AND CHATTED WITH MASSERY AND AN AFGHAN TRIBAL FIGURE. HASSAN GAILANI, AN EXSTWILE FRIEND AND

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3. ROOMMATE OF MASSERY'S STAYED UP WITH ARABI SAREYLAND, THE FORMER AFGHAN DIPLOMAT NOW IN GAILANI'S CAMP. UNKIND WORDS WERE EXCHANGED IN DISSENT BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. GAILANI ORDERED THE TRIBESMAN AWAY. TENSIONS WERE HIGH. I FELT AS-IF I WERE IN THE O.C. CORRAL.

4. MASSERY LATER EXPLAINED THAT THE TRIBESMAN, A WAZIR FROM PAKISTAN, WANTED TO LEAVE THE GAILANI FACTION AND HAD ASKED HIM, MASSERY, TO TAKE COMMAND OF A NEW GROUP. UNWILLING TO SAY, GAILANI REPEATED BOTH THE APOSTASY AND THE FOULING. I CAUTIONED MASSERY THAT, AS AN AMERICAN CITIZEN, HE COULD EASILY RUN AROUD OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES IF HE ASSUMED A LEADERSHIP ROLE AMONG THE REBELS. I SAID I HOPED HE WOULD CONSIDER THE MATTER CAREFULLY. HE DID NOT SEEM DISDAINED, HOWEVER.

5. "RADIO ASHERI" NONE OF THE REBELS WHOM I HAVE RECENTLY MET HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MONITOR "RADIO ASHERI" FROM PESHAWAR. NEITHER HAS MY ASSISTANT, MASOOD AKRAM, BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN PICKING IT UP ON THE TWO OCCASIONS WHEN HE HAS TRIED. YET, THE WAZIR TRIBESMAN SAID HE COULDN'T HEAR THE STATION IN HIS VILLAGE WHICH IS NEAR MATUN (POST) IN PAKISTAN. THE DISSENTS OF ACKNOWLEDGES THE EXISTENCE OF THE RADIO. THEY ATTRIBUTE IT TO GUL BAHADUR'S HIZB ISLAMIC ORGANIZATION AND SAY IT IS A PIECE OF MODIFIED, CAPTURED EQUIPMENT. AMONGST OF HIZB STREETS THAT HIS ORGANIZATION IS COMPLETELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TRANSMITTER. IT BROADCASTS ON 4.0 MEGAHERTZ, 45 AND ON METERBANDS, BETWEEN 4 AND 6 PM PAKISTAN TIME, HE SAYS. ACCORDING TO HIM, HEAVY JAMMING OF TRANSMITTER IN CAHEL, JALALABAD AND TARRANT WANTS RECEPTION BEING VERY DIFFICULT. ANY REPORTS EMANATING FROM THE RADIO OF WHICH THE REBELS ARE AWARE ARE RECEIVED SECOND-HAND AND COME VIA CAHEL. IN THE CASE OF THE REPORTED "SHADOW CABINET", HOWEVER, THE WAZIR LATER STATED WITH HAD NOT HEARD OF A BROADCAST.

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